

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY

Topic: Strategic Initiative Update

Date: June 19, 2014

Staff/Office: Cindy Hunt & Blake Dye, Deputy Supt Office, Johnna Timmes, ISAA

Action Requested:

Information only **Policy Adoption** **Policy Adoption/Consent Calendar**

ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD: Report on statewide distribution of all Strategic Initiative Grants

BACKGROUND:

HB 3232 (2013) Strategic Investments:

HB 3232 directs the Oregon Education Investment Board to design, implement and report on programs that make strategic investments in three areas:

- Oregon Early Reading Program
- Guidance and Support for Post-Secondary Aspirations Program
- Connecting to the World of Work Program

The OEIB is charged with developing timelines, performance measures and other requirements related to the accumulation and evaluation of data collected in relation to the programs. The Department of Education, Oregon Student Access Commission, Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development and Oregon Arts Commission are directed to administer the programs within the strategic investments.

The total appropriation to all agencies for HB 3232 was \$29.3 million. The Legislature held back two percent of this amount, and once returned, the monies were used to fund an additional site for the Student Mentoring Monitoring and Acceleration Grant and provide technical assistance to other awardees as needed.

HB 3233 (2013) Network of Quality Teaching and Learning:

HB 3233 establishes the Network of Quality Teaching and Learning, which provides funding for a comprehensive system of support for educators that creates a culture of leadership, professionalism, continuous improvement and excellence for teachers and leaders across the P-20 system.

The Oregon Education Investment Board is directed to support the network and establish accountability systems for the network. The Oregon Department of Education is directed to support the network, disseminate best practices and distribute grant and contract funds to school districts, community colleges, post-secondary institutions, providers of early learning services and nonprofit organizations.

The total appropriation to the Oregon Department of Education for HB 3233 was \$45 million with \$33 million transferred from the State School Fund and \$12 million transferred from the Common School Fund by vote of the State Land Board.

After enactment of the legislation, the OEIB and ODE established an aggressive timeline for distribution of the grants and contracts related to strategic initiatives. HB 3232 and 3233 became law on July 25, 2013 and the first award letters to recipients of the first grant awarded under this legislation were sent on August 29, 2013. It is expected that all monies will be awarded by the end of June, 2014.

POLICY QUESTIONS:

- Given the geographic distribution of funding, what measures should be instituted to ensure equitable distribution to Small, Rural and Remote areas?
- Have the awards provided the necessary infusion of funds to close achievement gaps in underserved and underrepresented communities?
- What are processes that can be introduced to encourage a broader participation of non-profit organizations that can improve education outcomes?
- Which Strategic Investments have the greatest likelihood for providing the return on investment necessary to justify continued funding into the next biennium?
- What are the top five Strategic Investments that should receive increased focus?